



Tennessee Crop Weather

Tennessee Field Office • PO Box 41505 • Nashville, TN 37204 • (615) 781-5300 • www.nass.usda.gov
In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

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Week Ending June 17, 2007

STATE’S NEED FOR RAIN CONTINUES TO GROW

The need for rain intensified last week as a region of high pressure remained over Tennessee causing a continuation of the hot and mainly dry weather that has gripped the State over the past month. All weather reporting stations showed considerable year-to-date precipitation deficits, indicating moderate to severe drought conditions. This prolonged dry spell has negatively impacted crop and livestock conditions, progress on some field activities, and cattle producers’ marketing decisions. Just over a tenth of the corn crop has entered silking stage, trailing last year and the 5-year average pace. Tobacco growers were able to set some additional plants last week despite the dry conditions. With nearly the entire winter wheat crop ripe, harvest was in full swing, as farmers combined 40 percent of the crop last week alone. Yield reports are widely variable with some locations fairing better than expected. The first cutting of hay neared completion, ahead of the normal schedule. Livestock producers reiterated their concerns about hay and water shortages with pinkeye becoming a problem in a few cattle herds.

There were 7 days considered suitable for fieldwork. Topsoil moisture levels were rated 55 percent very short, 38 percent short, and 7 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 55 percent very short, 34 percent short, and 11 percent adequate. Temperatures last week averaged near to slightly above normal across the entire State, while rainfall amounts averaged below normal for much of the State.

CROP PROGRESS					CONDITION					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2006	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Silking	11	4	23	16	Corn	19	28	35	16	2
Cotton – Squaring	40	13	35	29	Cotton	3	12	31	47	7
Hay – First Cutting	98	92	90	89	Hay	25	35	32	8	0
Tobacco – Transplanted	89	83	87	87	Pastures	34	33	27	6	0
Soybeans – Planted	90	84	94	80	Soybeans	8	22	38	31	1
Soybeans – Emerged	77	73	78	66	Tobacco	6	17	45	31	1
Winter Wheat – Ripe	98	79	97	88						
Winter Wheat – Harvested	54	14	68	38						

County Agent Comments

“Wheat harvest got into full swing this week. Yields are better than initially expected from freeze damage. Earliest planted wheat in the fall is yielding the worst. Reported yields are ranging from 25 to 80 bushels depending on variety and planting date. Corn is reaching the tassel and silking stages, and without rain during this critical period, it will surely have an affect on yield. Difficult to estimate how much at this time.”

Tim Campbell, Dyer County

“Much of our corn is in desperate need of water. If we don’t get any rain very soon, there will be several acres that will not be harvested. Cotton growth is at a standstill. I’m surprised that it looks as good as it does. Soybeans are not growing at all, and in several fields, there is only a 50 to 75 percent stand. Pastures have dried up. Cattle producers are feeding hay that is already in short supply.”

Steven Burgess, Carroll County

“Few problems have been seen in tobacco this year. First field affected with black shank seen this week. Most growers have put remaining transplanting on hold waiting for rain. Corn really started showing stress symptoms this week.”

Paul Hart, Robertson County

“Herd liquidation continues, due to forage shortage and lack of livestock water. Out-of-state- hay purchases over \$200 per ton have been reported. Corn is rolled up, cotton and soybeans barely growing at all. Several hay barn fires have continued to deplete hay supply. Producers are rolling hay from fields not normally harvested for hay.”

David Qualls, Lincoln County

“Newly set tobacco is dying from the lack of moisture. Pastures and hay fields are burning up, with ponds, creeks, and springs drying up. We have not had any amount of moisture since the 11th of May.”

Ron Johnson, Overton County

“The area received some widely scattered thunderstorms during the week; however, the results were mostly storm damage with very little moisture. Livestock producers are grazing hay fields that normally would be used for second and perhaps third cuttings.”

Bob Sliger, Monroe County

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: June 17, 2007 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION					
	Week Ending June 17, 2007				Current Week 06/17/07	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal January 1	Current Since April 1	Departure From Normal April 1
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN						
Ames_Plantation	96	61	77	3	0.21	1	14.82	-11.67	7.18	-5.54
Tri-City_RGNL_A	87	52	70	-2	0.51	3	9.75	-9.69	4.23	-4.84
Brownsville_TN	94	64	79	3	0.00	0	13.65	-13.00	5.86	-6.99
Chattanooga/Lov	94	61	78	3	0.00	0	13.00	-13.33	5.75	-4.85
Clarksville_Sew	93	59	76	2	0.00	0	16.46	-8.16	7.34	-3.63
Cookeville	89	57	73	1	0.13	1	15.89	-11.54	5.99	-6.41
Covington	94	62	77	1	0.07	1	15.79	-10.65	7.01	-5.75
Crossville_AP	85	56	71	2	0.00	0	16.68	-10.59	9.66	-2.59
Dayton	89	57	73	-1	0.61	3	12.18	-15.65	5.55	-6.26
Dickson_AG	92	57	73	-1	0.00	0	15.94	-10.62	6.35	-6.20
Dover_1W	93	60	75	2	0.00	0	17.99	-7.61	7.61	-4.09
Dyersburg	93	63	78	1	0.04	1	15.03	-9.54	5.95	-5.80
Erwin_1W	85	55	69	1	1.27	4	12.81	-9.87	7.19	-3.98
Huntingdon_Wate	94	59	76	2	0.00	0	12.84	-12.93	4.43	-7.58
Jackson_Exp_Stn	94	60	77	3	0.05	1	13.95	-12.27	5.27	-7.67
Kingston_AG	88	57	73	2	0.20	2	16.69	-11.64	8.49	-3.76
Knoxville_AP	89	61	75	3	0.01	1	14.11	-9.27	7.07	-2.99
Lewisburg	92	57	75	2	0.04	1	13.83	-13.26	6.20	-6.31
Lexington_TN	93	59	76	2	0.04	1	16.41	-8.58	6.82	-4.98
Linden	93	54	74	1	0.00	0	15.56	-12.22	6.40	-6.39
Martin	93	60	77	2	0.00	0	17.82	-7.64	6.85	-5.37
Mc_Minnville_Tn	92	60	76	3	0.08	2	13.41	-12.92	6.39	-5.52
Memphis_AG	96	63	79	0	0.27	1	13.68	-12.34	5.71	-6.82
Milan	93	56	75	2	0.00	0	14.90	-11.63	6.66	-6.25
Murfreesboro_5N	92	56	74	0	0.00	0	16.67	-9.16	5.79	-6.26
Nashville_Metro	93	61	77	2	0.00	0	14.10	-9.47	6.53	-4.80
Newcomb	87	54	71	2	0.27	3	16.26	-9.90	8.25	-4.04
Oneida	87	56	71	3	0.33	3	14.40	-11.76	6.90	-5.39
Portland_TN	91	59	74	2	0.00	0	16.01	-9.48	6.65	-5.54
Pulaski_Water_P	93	60	76	2	0.11	2	14.55	-12.71	5.51	-6.36
Savannah_6SW	97	51	77	1	0.00	0	13.94	-15.10	5.28	-8.30
Sparta_TN	90	59	75	3	0.00	0	15.27	-11.41	6.88	-5.23
Springfield	92	59	75	2	0.00	0	16.83	-7.60	7.94	-3.62
Springhill	92	59	75	3	0.00	0	14.75	-12.67	5.25	-7.56
Union_City	94	59	75	1	0.00	0	15.94	-9.51	5.73	-6.54
Waynesboro_TN	93	59	76	4	0.07	1	13.21	-15.61	5.02	-8.03

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). Rain Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more during the week. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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